

**State and Private Forestry
FY 2013 Western Competitive
Resource Allocation
Single-State Project Proposal**

Filename			
State:	ID	Keyword:	ClearCreek
Administration Information			
Funds Requested:		300000	
Match:		300000	

Applicant Information					
1	State Forestry Agency:	Idaho Department of Lands			
	Contact Person:	Mary Fritz			
	Address:	3284 West Industrial Loop			
	City:	Coeur d'Alene	State:	ID	Zipcode: 83815
	Phone:	208-666-8667	Email:	mfritz@idl.idaho.gov	

Project Information			
2	Descriptive Title of Project:	Clear Creek Integrated Restoration Project	
	Partnering Agencies / Organizations:	Idaho County (IDC), Ridge Runner Volunteer Fire Department (VFD), Idaho County Soil & Water Conservation District (ICSWC), Nez Perce/Clearwater National Forest (FS), Private Land Owners (LO), Idaho Office of Species Conservation (IOSC), Upper Clearwater Weed Management Area Committee (UCWMAC), Clearwater Basin Collaborative (CBC), CFLRP Youth Corps., US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFW), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Nez Perce Tribe (NPT), Idaho Department of Lands (IDL)	
	Project Duration:	<input type="checkbox"/> One Year	<input type="checkbox"/> Two Years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Three Years

National Relevance		
3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conserve Working Forest Landscapes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protect Forests From Harm <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Public Benefits From Trees and Forests

Project Overview	
4	<p>10 Points. 1,000 Characters Including Spaces – Provide a comprehensive but succinct overview of the proposed project that includes basic details of who is doing what, where, and why.</p> <p>The Clearwater Basin is nationally renowned for its clear, pristine water, anadromous and resident fisheries, big game species, vast landscapes & scenic vistas. The Clearwater Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Project (CFLRP) focuses on 1.4 million acres w/i this Basin. Land ownership w/i the CFLRP is primarily federal, with key private lands and Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas in the 65,000-acre Clear Creek drainage (CCD), which the CFLRP & Idaho Forest Action Plan identify as high priority for restoration work. Past management, fire suppression, invasive species and increasing human settlement have altered the landscape and threaten the unique ecological values of this area. Project partners will assess conditions, and prioritize & implement complimentary treatments across ownerships to improve biodiversity and stand condition, mitigate fire threats to WUI residents, restore riparian functions, improve habitat & water quality, and treat invasive species within the CCD.</p>

5	Project Budget						
			Leverage ¹				
		Grant Match		Non-Match		Source	TOTAL
		Funds requested	Applicant	Non-federal contributors	Applicant, non-federal, and/or federal	3 rd Party Contributor(s)	Total project cost
	Personnel / Labor:	30,519			7,010	IDC, UCWMAC,IDL	37,529
	Fringe Benefits:	12,208					12,208
	Travel:						0
	Equipment:						0
	Supplies:						0
	Contractual:	230,000			799,000	FS,LOs,USFWS,NRCS,NPT	1,029,000
	Construction:						0
	Consolidated ² :		300,000				300,000
	Other:						0
	Indirect Costs ³ :	27,273					27,273
TOTAL:	300,000	300,000	0	806,010		1,406,010	

¹ Funds qualifying as “match” must meet the same program requirements as grant funds (e.g., program authorities, non-federal sources). Other “non-match” leveraged funds do not need to meet the same standards (e.g., may include funds for construction, funds from other federal partners). Partnership with other USFS programs outside of State & Private Forestry, as well as other federal and state programs is encouraged. See FAQ online for more information: http://www.wflcweb.org/spf_grants_13/2013_faq_match.pdf

² If any part of your match requirement is being covered through consolidation, (i.e., state spending of non-federal funds on activities that meet S&PF program authorities but are not tied to this proposal), place it here.

³ Indirect costs must be tied to an established rate. Waived indirect costs are an acceptable source of match.

Context, Goals, and Objectives	
6	<p>15 Points. 2,000 Characters Including Spaces – What resource issue/s, threats, and/or opportunities does the project address? What is the desired vision or end state? What are the project goals and objectives; what short- and long-term impacts do you hope to achieve?</p> <p>Issues/Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire suppression, grazing, poor road construction and invasion of non-native species have degraded terrestrial and aquatic ecosystem function, decreased forest resilience, increased fire danger and negatively impacted anadromous fish hatchery and native fisheries in Clear Creek • Lack of management has increased fuel levels in low elevation WUI areas, increasing risks to public safety and property <p>Opportunity: The CBC has worked hard to create social license for needed forest restoration projects on federal lands and, with the FS, produced a comprehensive restoration strategy for 1.4 million acres in north-central Idaho. Through the CFLRP, the Nat'l Forest is eligible to receive up to \$4 million annually for restoration work to implement this strategy. The Clear Creek drainage is an emphasis area for terrestrial and aquatic restoration projects and work in the WUI. This project works with and leverages these efforts, extending them onto private lands, leading to landscape scale benefits across ownerships.</p> <p>Vision: Within the Clear Creek drainage, forests are healthy and resilient to insects, disease, wildfire, invasive species and climate change.</p> <p>Goals</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure adequate protection of rural communities and private lands from uncharacteristic wildfire 2. Re-establish and perpetuate a landscape resilient in the presence of wildfire, invasive species, insects, disease and climate change 3. Restore/maintain forest structure, function and ecologic processes that promote aquatic health 4. Knowledgeable private landowners actively restore and maintain their forests and riparian areas <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic reduction of fuels to minimize potential scale/severity of wildfire in the Clear Creek WUI • Reduce chronic sediment delivery into Clear Creek to improve fish habitat • Inventory and treat noxious weeds and protect weed-free areas • Educate landowners on creating healthy, resilient forests

Proposed Activities	
7	<p>15 Points. 2,000 Characters Including Spaces – What work will be completed using grant funds and leveraged resources? Who will do the work over what time frame? How do the activities contribute to achieving stated project goals and objectives?</p> <p>Grant funds=GF</p> <p>YEAR 1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IDC will inventory invasive species on 1,000 acres of private land listed as high risk for invasive weeds in Clear Creek drainage (CCD). The inventory will identify areas of new invaders & priority areas to contain weeds already present. \$29,800-GF 2. Weed inventory on 40,000 acres and treatments on 3,500 highest priority acres of FS land in CCD. \$250,000-FS 3. FS & NPT will complete inventories/stand exams on 2,500 FS acres in the CCD, which will inform treatment design on FS and private lands. \$50,000-FS 4. IDC will install fencing to exclude grazing on private lands in Clear Creek to restore critical riparian habitat. \$19,000-GF <p>YEARS 2-3</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. IDC & UCWMA will treat 200 acres of high priority invasive weed "gardens" on private lands. \$50,000-GF, \$3,000-UCWMA. 6. NRCS will complete 30 acres of plantings for stream stabilization on private lands. \$53,000-NRCS 7. IDC will cost-share with LOs to thin, reduce ladder fuels, remove insect and disease infected trees, favoring seral and fire resistant tree species on 125 private acres. The lower reaches of the watershed will be treated to reduce fire threats from moving into the upper watershed. Treatments will expand the fuel break network in the drainage. \$128,200-GF, \$16,000-LOs, \$4,010 IDC/IDL. FS will treat 5,000 FS acres in CCD. \$300,000-FS 8. Re-engineer and restore 3,485' of degraded stream bank on private lands along Clear Creek to mitigate sediment delivery into the Creek. \$125,000-USFWS <p>YEAR 3</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. CFLRP Youth Corps will monitor project effectiveness. \$5,000-Youth Corp <p>YEARS 1-3</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. ICSWC will develop curriculum and hold 3 workshops to educate LOs in CCD on forest health and fire mitigation issues, riparian management/ restoration, and control of invasive weeds. \$3,000-GF 11. IDL overall project management and administration \$42,727-GF <p>Match is through consolidation as allowed Indirect approved by FS is \$27,273</p>

Deliverables, Outputs, and Outcomes	
8	<p>15 Points. 2,000 Characters Including Spaces – What are the project deliverables, outputs, and outcomes? What metrics or indicators will be used to measure and monitor progress?</p> <p>Outputs/deliverables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invasive weed inventory completed on 1,000 private/ 40,000 FS acres in CCD that identifies invasive species present, threats from new invaders and priority areas for treatment. • Inventory and stand exams on 2,500 acres of FS lands, used to inform treatment designs on all lands within CCD • Weed treatments on 200 private and 3,500 FS acres to control the most dangerous weeds and new invaders • Riparian restoration of 6 acres, including stream bank restoration, plantings of native tree, shrub and forbs species, fencing and weed control along 3,485' of Clear Creek • Treatments on 125 private & 5,000 FS high-priority acres, including thinning and hazardous fuel removal favoring fire resistant species. Treatments expand the fuel break system in the watershed. • Three workshops to educate private landowners on forest management, weed control and riparian management <p>Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative and coordinated strategic landscape-wide management planning & treatments in CCD that address multiple resource issues across all ownerships • Informed landowners contribute to restoration and protection efforts, and maintain forest health and resiliency • Connection to and expansion of a network of fuel breaks adequate to contain wildfire spread and provide safe places for suppression efforts • Elimination of chronic sediment delivery to Clear Creek • Protection of anadromous and other resident native fisheries in Clear Creek, and enhancement of water quality flowing into anadromous fish hatchery • Transition to desirable tree species resistant to insect, disease and wildfire; increased forest health and resilience • Management and control of invasive species <p>Measures:</p> <p>Number of landowner participating in workshops and implementing treatments; number of acres treated for weeds and fuels; Number of acres resilient to climatic changes; increase in water quality. Measures derived from monitoring in conjunction with the broader CFLRP requirements.</p>

Collaboration	
9	<p>15 Points. 2,000 Characters Including Spaces – What partners have contributed to the project? What is the nature of their contributions (project planning, implementation, financial resources, etc.)? How does the project integrate S&PF and/or other programs in a meaningful and complementary way that goes beyond “business as usual”?</p> <p>In October 2012, IDL staff, USFS Region 1 & 4 Directors and all seven National Forest Supervisors in Idaho met to review Idaho's Forest Action Plan (FAP) and to select areas of mutual priority and associated strategies. This project is one of three in Idaho identified as highest priority by this group. The project coordinates work on private lands with the work of the CFLRP & Clearwater Basin Collaborative (CBC), an advisory group of 21 representatives of business, conservation, government and tribal interests.</p> <p>In addition to the CBC, of which IDC is a founding member and active stakeholder, planning for this project involved the local FS, VFD, ICSWC, IOSC, USFW, IDL and NRCS. Each partner is committed to coordinating treatments on ownerships they manage w/i the CCD to maximize the value of the combined work in addressing multiple critical issues.</p> <p>Contributions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICSWC and VFD will develop/conduct workshops on forest health, stewardship & Firewise concepts. • IDC, VFD & IDL will design stand treatments on private grounds to maximize fire suppression effectiveness • USFWS & IOSC will plan, engineer/design and restore 6 acres of severely damaged lands and stream bank along Clear Creek. • NRCS will complete plantings for stream stabilization on private lands <p>FS through the CFLRP will contribute the following on federal lands in the Clear Creek project area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory 40,000 acres for invasive species and treat 3,500 acres • FS & NPT will conduct inventories and stand exams on 2,500 FS acres • 5,000 acres in vegetation management completed to reduce hazard fuel, promote seral species, improve wildlife habitat, protect water quality and provide jobs <p>The CBC will coordinate and monitor to assess effectiveness of activities drainage wide. The CFLRP Youth Corps will assist with the monitoring. Partners designed each project activity to complement and enhance the others.</p>

10	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Forest Action Plan Integration</h3>
	<p>10 points. 1,250 Characters Including Spaces – How does the project align with stated priority issues, areas, and/or activities in the State Forest Action Plan?</p> <p>This project is within the St. Joe-Clearwater Priority Landscape Area (PLA)--one of 12 PLAs identified in Idaho—and focuses on achieving several Forest Action Plan (FAP) strategies specific to the Clear Creek drainage, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the CBC in assessing, designing and implementing large-scale treatments across ownerships. Conduct inventory, analysis, treatments and build partnerships • Support restoration projects to protect forests from wildfire, insects and disease, noxious weeds, and to re-establish landscape resiliency, diversity of age and species, and other healthy functions. Reduce fuel loading, prevent fire, and smoke impacts to Montana. • Manage forests near communities to improve forest health. • Use an integrated approach of inventory and treatments (including herbicides, bio-control, and mechanical treatments) to mitigate and reduce spread of invasive species. • Promote market development and restoration of local forest industry. Utilize local timber industry to provide services to meet CBC goals. <p>The issues as identified in Idaho's FAP directly influenced congressional funding for the CFLRP investment on the Clearwater-Nez Perce National Forest.</p>
11	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Meaningful Scale</h3>
	<p>10 Points. 1,250 Characters Including Spaces – What is the scale of the project? How will doing work at this scale facilitate achievement of the stated goals, objectives, and outcomes?</p> <p>This project focuses on the 65,000 acre Clear Creek Drainage, an emphasis area within the CFLRP strategic plan due to the amount of private ownership and prioritization in both the CBC's restoration strategy and Idaho's Forest Action Plan (FAP). The inventories and analyses of invasives, stand condition and fire risk ensure the highest priority areas are treated with grant and partner resources. Work on forest service lands—the largest landowner in the drainage, and on private lands are designed to compliment and enhance each other. Together, this work will result in meaningful positive changes on the landscape within this sub-watershed.</p> <p>In addition to protecting homes in the WUI, the Kooskia National Fish Hatchery, managed by the Nez Perce Tribe, is located at the mouth of Clear Creek. Restoration work along a degraded section of Clear Creek will repair a chronic sediment source, benefiting both hatchery and native fish populations. Providing forest stewardship, fire and forest health information to the private landowners advances their ability to make sound management decisions. Cumulatively, these actions across ownerships help mitigate threats in the watershed and further the goals of the CBC, CFLRP and Idaho's FAP.</p>
12	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Sustainability of Outcomes</h3>
	<p>10 Points. 1,250 Characters Including Spaces – What skills and capabilities will result from and extend beyond the life of the project; how? Can the project be replicated in other areas; how? What plans are in place or being developed to replicate or expand the project, to build on skills, capabilities, and lessons learned?</p> <p>The Nez Perce and Clearwater Nat'l Forests, IDL and CBC are committed to achieving the goals and objectives of CFLRP and increasing restoration capacity into the future. CFLRP is a forward-looking approach designed to balance and protect ecological and socioeconomic values of the Clearwater Basin. Work in the CFLRP is scheduled over 10 years, providing additional opportunities to leverage resources and address critical issues on private lands.</p> <p>A recent study found that the \$3 million of CFLRP expenditures, matching funds and in-kind contributions last year created and/or maintained 163 part- and full-time jobs with a labor income exceeding \$6.3 million. This, in turn, creates/maintains an infrastructure to support utilization of woody material created on private lands, incentivizing future treatments. IDC, CBC and FS plan to utilize the outcomes and lessons learned to replicate this project in the adjacent Lolo Creek drainage. A pool of local contractors is being expanded with increased skill sets that can conduct stream restoration, stand improvements, weed inventory and weed treatments. Education to LOs increases their knowledge base and ability to maintain healthy forests.</p>